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1. During May 1948, representatives of the International Labor Office in Geneva visited the Labor Ministry of Rheinland-Pfalz at Koblenz in order to collect data on the manpower situation, legal protection of workers, social insurance, trade union development, and living standards. Before the visit, Minister of Labor Bokenkrieger, SPD, was requested by French authorities to discuss only official relations, as they were publicly announced. Although several French officials were present during his conversation with the Geneva delegation, Bokenkrieger followed his previously-stated intention of presenting an uncolored picture of the food situation of the state.
2. The minister declared that on paper a normal consumer in Rheinland-Pfalz received a daily average of 1300 to 1400 calories, but that his actual consumption was about 700 calories, after the deduction of allowances shown on paper but not usually distributed. He cited the following reasons: Potatoes, one of the most important food items, were in short supply, in spite of the widely-publicized fact that some cities received three zentner of potatoes per person. In effect, only priority cities received this amount, which must last until the new harvest; many communities received less than one zentner per person. The potato shortage decreased the calorie total by 300 to 400 calories a day. Another loss of about 100 calories a day resulted from the shortage of sugar and nutrients, which were not distributed for several months. Throughout most of the state, no eggs were distributed from the summer of 1947 until Easter 1948, and distribution of skim milk was resumed in spring 1948 after several months' lapse. The 340 gram allowance had decreased to an actual 200 or 250 grams a month. From this situation, the minister drew the conclusion that the efficiency of workers in Rheinland-Pfalz, even of those who received additional allowances, was threatened by exhaustion.
3. Future food allowances announced by the French Zone delegates to the Paris Marshall Plan conference and quoted by Dr. Armbruster of Mainz, a delegate, were planned for a daily average of 1815 calories, in the following foods: 300 grams of bread, 50 grams of cooking flour, 20 grams of fat, 26 grams of meat, 33 grams of

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sugar, eight grams of cheese, 50 grams of nutriments, and three eggs per month. The minister declared that, if these allowances were to be actually delivered, heavy importation of foodstuffs would be necessary. The allotment of 20 grams of fat per day, for example, would total over 19,000 tons of fat a year, more than was available in the state. The meat allowance would require 25,000 tons of meat, although the state could produce only 18,000 tons unless it greatly reduced the number of cattle.

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